

THE

REHEARSAL.

The *BANISHING* Proclamation in Scotland. With some few Remarks upon it.

SATURDAY, April 13 1706.

Country-Man. I Have been mightily Affected Master, with what you told me, last time, (and you have made it fully and Plainly appear) of that Wicked that *ABOMINABLY* Wicked Artifice of these Whiggs to write Scandalous and Enflaming Books, Reflecting in a High manner upon the Queen and the Ministry; on purpose to put them upon the Church, and they themselves to be the Accusers, who themselves had done the Wicked Deed! And to think all this a pretty Jest! It Astonishes, it Frights one to think on't! Bless us. Ther's no Living with such Men! Who can be Secure!

Rehearsal. I have more to say upon that Subject, *Country-man*, and can make it Appear yet more plainly. And how they still go on with it, notwithstanding of all these plain *Declarations*! And I shall say something of the *Memo-rial* that has made so great a Noise, and perhaps put the *Prosecutors* upon the Right Scent how to find the *Author*, or *Authors*.

But for this time I am Diverted by an Extraordinary Proclamation come from Scotland. Which that I may not Mistake, nor lead others into a Mistake, I will here set down *Verbatim*, as it is Printed and Published at Edinburgh.

ACT and PROCLAMATION

Anent intruders into Churches.

THE Lords of Her Majesties Privy Council, having taken to their serious Consideration a Representation made to them by the Commission of the late General Assembly of the Church, and in the Name, and by the Warrant of the said Assembly, Of several Church Irregularities and Disorders, as particularly, That where Churches happen to Dail by Death or other ways, the Keys thereof are withdrawn by Disaffected Persons, and the Presbytery of the Bounds refused or hindered to have Access thereto, notwithstanding of the frequent Orders and Acts made for Remedy of these Abuses. Secondly, That Persons having no Authority from or within this Church, but pretending Warrant from the late *Crautozat* Bishops, do take upon them to Preach, and Exercise other

Acts of the Ministerial Function, contrary to all good Order, and to perpetuate an unhappie Schism. And Thirdly, That where Intruders are removed from Kirks or Paroches by Sentence of the Lords of Council for their Intrusion, yet for eluding of the said Sentence, they do either remove only to the Border of a Neighbouring Paroch, and there continue to Exercise, or otherwise Intrude else where, as if no Sentence had past against them. The saids Lords of Privy Council, for remedy of the saids Abuses, Do therefore, in the first place, in Prosecution, and for the more effectual Execution of the Acts of Parliament, and Privy Council, made for that Effect, Require and Command all Sheriffs and their Deputs, and all other Magistrates and Officers of the Law, within whose Bounds any Church is or shall happen to be Vacant, that upon Application made to them by the Presbytery of the Bounds, or any in their Name, they make and cause make the same Patent to the Presbytery, and deliver or cause deliver to the said Presbytery, or any having their Warrant, either the usual Keys of the said Church, or new Keys in place of the former usual Keys abstracted and withdrawn, whereby the Church may be made freely patent, and that within the space of fifteen Days after they shall be required thereto by form of Instrument taken against them personally for that effect, with Certification that if they refuse to make or cause make the said Church patent to the Presbytery in manner foresaid, within the said space of fifteen Days, Letters shall be direct at the Instance of the Kirk-Agent, by Deliberance of Privy Council, summarily against them, charging them thereto simpliciter, within the space of Ten Days. And the saids Lords of Her Majesties Privy Council, Do hereby Order and Warrant the foresaid Letters to be Direct conform to the said Certification, and that without prejudice of the pains contained in the Act of Parliament One thousand six hundred ninety eight against the saids Sheriffs and others who shall refuse to Obtemper in the Terms of the said Act; And in the next place, The saids Lords of Privy Council, Do hereby expressly

expressly Prohibe and Discharge all Persons who neither had nor have any Authority from or within this Church, but pretend allannerly to a Warrant or Licence from the late Excommunicat Bishops, since they were Excommunicat, To take upon them to preach, or exerce any part of the Ministerial Function within this Church, or within any Kirk or Paroch thereof; Certifying such as shall presume to preach or Exerce in the contrary, without being duely authorized and qualified according to Law: They shall not only be liable upon due Information to be summarly sealed and secured by the Magistrats of the Bounds in order to their Trial; And which Magistrats are hereby authorized to seal them accordingly, But also upon due Trial they shall be banished by Sentence of the Lords of Privy Council furth of the Kingdom, conform to the Act of Parliament One thousand six hundred and ninety three; And farther, the late Bishops Excommunicat as said is, are hereby discharged to grant any such Warrant or Licence, as they will be answerable upon their highest Peril. And thirdly, The saids Lords of Privy Council, Do hereby Declare and Certifie, That if any Minister or Preacher, either deprived by Sentence of the Lords of Privy Council, or not Qualified according to Law, and who shall be Removed from any Church or Paroch as an Intruder by Sentence of the saids Lords, shall be found again Transgressing, by Intruding into any other Kirk or Paroch, contrary to the Act of Parliament one thousand six hundred ninety five, made against Intruding into Churches, without a legal Call and Admission thereto, he shall not only be summarly Sealed and Secured upon due Information by the Magistrat of the Bounds to answer for his Transgression; And which Magistrats are hereby Authorized to Seal him accordingly; But also after due Conviction, he shall be Banished furth of the Kingdom, conform to the saids Acts of Parliament: And the Lords of her Majesties Privy Council do hereby Ordain these presents to be Printed and Published at the Mercat-croos of Edinburgh, and all other Places needful that none pretend Ignorance.

Given under Our Signet at Edinburgh the Twenty first Day of March One thousand seven hundred and six, and of our Reign the Fourth Year.

Per Actum Dominorum Secreti Concilii.

AL. MAITLAND, Cls. Ssi. Concilii.

GOD Save the Queen.

Edinburgh, Printed by the Heirs and Successors of Andrew Anderson, Printer to the Queens most Excellent Majesty Anno Dom. 1706.

Country-m. This is Root and Branch work, with a Witness! How have you been Pelted Master, by Flying-Post and others, and what vile Names have they call'd you, for saying there was any Persecution of the Church in Scotland! On the contrary the Flying-Post has Assur'd us over and over again, that the Episcopal Church in Scotland Enjoys (under the gentle Administration of the Kirk) not only a Toleration, but a Comprehension! And this is a Comprehension indeed, like that of Stricks in a Faggot to throw them all together into the Fire! But when all the Clergy are Banish'd, pursuant to this Proclamation, then they will need neither Toleration nor Comprehension!

Rehears. And observe Country-man, that the Execution of this is put into the Hands of the very Inferior Magistrates, who are most Begot against the Church, and some of them the Scum of the People. Of whose Moderation the Distressed Clergy there had a Plentiful and Bitter Experiment in the Beginning of this Revolution. Accounts of which were Printed here and Sold by Jo. Hindmarsh at the Golden-Ball over against the Royal Exchange in Cornhill. Wherein you will see such Barbarities, as cannot be Equall'd in any Christian Nation.

Country-m. God keep us from the Mercies of these Men! my Heart AKES for that poor Church. And for our own too, if ever these Persecutors, with their Friends in England, shou'd Prevail over us. They wou'd serve us just in the same manner! Just as they did Before!

But what do they mean, to do this just before the meeting of the Commissioners for the Union of both Kingdoms? Is this a Preparative for an Union?

Rehears. The best that can be! It is always Best to be Plain and above Board. Perhaps they saw, that a Toleration wou'd be Ask'd for the Episcopal Church there, as the Dissenters freely Enjoy here. Because it seems but Reason. To put us at least upon the Level. And now they have Prevented it. For who will Ask Toleration for Banish'd Folks? The English Parliament Repeal'd an Act about making the Scots Aliens, without which they said they wou'd not Treat. Let us see if we can get them to Recall this Proclamation. That is. not so much as an Act of Parliament.

ADVERTISEMENT.

IN the last Rehearsal N. 94. p. 2. Col. 1. lin. 5. 1. Turkey-Cocks, lin. 31. f. Acts r. Arts. Col. 2. alter lin. 3. add Country-m. That's as we say in our Country.

Lately Publish'd,

ADvice to the Clergy in six Sermons, representing their Dignity and Duty, with the addition of two other Sermons, wherein the Clergy are concern'd as well as the Laity if not more, and I am afraid both of them too much. By John Cock a Presbyter of the Church of England. Price bound in Calf two Shillings six pence. Printed for George Sawbridge in Little-Brittain.